# No. 218

# **NAVA News**

FIG. 1: Display of Army-related World War II flags, Fort Howard Veterans Park, Edgemere, MD. THE AUTHOR.



# Designing Rewarding Exhibits for the Public: World War II Production Award Flags

By DALE GRIMES, Jr.

I have a standing invitation from the Independent Order of Odd Fellows to set up a flag display at Fort Howard Veterans Park for their Memorial Day Service. (One hundred years ago Fort Howard was a coastal army fort guarding the port of Baltimore.) Last year I set up a display of Army-related World War II flags (Fig. 1). This year's display was "Production Award Flags"; for 2014 I'm thinking of a War of 1812 theme. Two hundred years ago the British army landed at North Point and marched right past the park where this memorial service is held. They were not successful in their attack on Baltimore. The next day the British Navy attacked Fort McHenry, inspiring Francis Scott Key to write his poem. (See the web site "IOOF North Point" "About Our Lodge" "Projects" "Memorial Day" for more

photos of ensigns, Secretary of the Navy flags and Admiral flags from my collection.)

Once I've decided on a theme, I look through my database to see what flags would fit that subject. Next, I take graph paper in hand (Fig. 2) and sketch out the sizes of the flags to see what will be visually appealing. Then I print up a sign for each flag with pertinent information. For example, there is a flag in this year's display with "WSA" printed on it. The sign will explain that "WSA" stands for the War Service Administration and the flag has a tag on it:

THE SUN NEVER SETS ON OUR WINDPROOF WOLVERINE FLAGS

SHERRITT FLAG CO., INC. RICHMOND 20, VIRGINIA

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## Embracing Change to Avoid Irrelevance

"If you don't like change," former Gen. Eric Shineski says, "you're going to like irrelevance even less."

With a fresh spirit of collegiality and collaboration, your Board has worked this past year to embrace innovation and create new services to make us relevant for the 21st century vexillologist. Establishing the *Flag Research Quarterly*, launching an improved website, and inaugurating the Preble Lecture are just the tip of the iceberg.

Even in the lazy days of summer, great things



are happening and will be unfolding throughout the coming weeks as we approach NAVA 47 in Salt Lake City. Some will be discussed at the impending

Netherlands Flag Congress this August in Rotterdam with appropriate announcements shortly thereafter. Others will be unveiled when we meet in October at the "Crossroads of the West." You'll hear about bold initiatives and deliberate steps being taken by your colleagues to avoid irrelevance as we approach our 50th anniversary in 2017 and secure vexillological resources for the next generation.

I think it's appropriate to note that the Nominating Committee's work is underway. I would encourage any of you interested in serving on the executive board or with suggestions to please contact committee chairman Pete Van de Putte to discuss how to help the Association move forward towards our Golden Jubilee. Service requires a few hours each week. You can contact Pete directly by sending an e-mail to 

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These are exciting times for vexillology and for this Association as we work to fulfill the vision of Whitney Smith and other pioneers of vexillology to build, nuture, and sustain a vibrant discipline that aids in explaining the human condition.

# Flag displays require detailed planning to be effective and informative for the public

FROM TOP: FIG. 2: Graph paper sketch of display. FIG. 3: Display No. 1. FIG. 4: Display No. 2. FIG. 5: Display No. 3. THE AUTHOR

continued from page 1

Next, I begin the actual assembling of the wooden frames on which to display the flags. This requires a lot of measuring.

### Display No. 1 (Fig. 3)

Bureau of Aeronautics, markings: "BU.OF AIR 6" "N. Y. NAV. SHIPYD."

War Shipping Administration, markings: see above. In NAVA News No. 189 (p. 6) there is a description note that "[n]o original is known to exist" Well, here is an original! They do exist. This is what makes this hobby so exciting. Navy E Pennant Type 2, markings: "ANNIN HIGH GRADE" "ALL WOOL BUNTING" Purchased from David Martucci at the Washington Flag Congress August 5, 2011. National War Fund, markings: 3 ft. x 5 ft. Fort Howard Community Church, Sons in the Service Banner, markings: none

#### Display No. 2 (Fig. 4)

Army Navy E Pennants

- 4 Stars, markings: "Tag "Manufactured by Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot U.S. War Department"
- 3 Stars, markings: "P.Q.D. PATENT: DESIGN PATENT 134,589"
- 2 Stars, markings: "P.Q.D. PATENT: DESIGN PATENT 134.503"
- 1 Star, markings: "P.Q.D. PATENT: DESIGN PATENT 134,503"
- 0 Stars, markings: "BULL DOG BUNTING"

#### Display No. 3 (Fig. 5)

Army Treasury, markings: none Treasury, markings: none Minuteman, markings: "A PRODUCT OF VALLEY FORGE FLAG CO. SPRING CITY, PA."

Bond Flag? markings: none Bond Pennant? markings: "Made by W. A. PLUMMER MFG. CO. San Francisco"



### **NAVA 47: Salt Lake City**

NAVA 47 continues the best features of past Annual Meetings while adding exciting new activities to enhance the experience for attendees. The schedule is jam-packed with familiar, updated, and new activities.

- •The Preble Lecture—NEW—gives direct access to viewpoints on flags from experts working in other academic fields. This inaugural lecture will be delivered by Prof. Richard E. Bennett, Ph.D., chair of Church History and Doctrine at Brigham Young University and president of the Mormon History Association. This event will bring members together with local scholars.
- •Presidents' Reception—where you can catch up with your friends and meet new vexillological contacts as you network with other members of the Association, the most prominent flag scholars in North America.
- \*Scholarly Papers and Presentations—a dozen members have prepared papers and presentations covering a wide variety of fascinating vexillological topics. These presentations are on the forefront of vexillological activities and report on new findings and exciting experiences shared for the first time.
- •The Whitney Smith Dinner—renamed to honor the founder of vexillology and the Association—will take place at the Historic Lion House, Brigham Young's residence. After a delicious dinner, members and guests will hear the Keynote Address reporting on perhaps the most significant vexillological happening in half a century.
- Vexillology Tour—on Saturday afternoon will include vexillological artifacts and archival items from four major local historical collections.
   These items are not on regular display anywhere.
- ◆NAVA 47 Surprises—still in the works, will add to the meeting traditions as we approach our Golden Jubilee in 2017.

NAVA 47 this October in Salt Lake City. Don't miss it!



TOP: A decorated plaster buffalo on the lawn of the Council House, home of the Utah Office of Tourism. During the 2002 Winter Games, the life-size buffaloes, painted and decorated by local artists, were used to promote Davis County, home to a wild bison herd on Antelope Island. This buffalo sports the the incorrect version of the state flag's design, being created nine years before the legislature's acted to correct it in 2011. TERENCE FAIRCLOTH BOTTOM: The Lion House, home of Brigham Young, and site of Saturday's Whitney Smith Dinner. The carved stone lion sports an impressive mane, as did Young! BRANDY SHAUL







### **Utah Flag Facts**

The Beehive. Utah's nickname is the *Beehive State* with good reason. The official state emblem is the beehive, the official state insect is the honeybee, and the beehive is the central emblem of both the state seal and the state flag. The beehive was also the central emblem of the seal for Utah Territory and was included prominently on the flag used before statehood. Although it originated with the Mormon Pioneers when they petitioned for statehood as the State of Deseret, the beehive figured prominently in the ecclesiastical seals of pioneer Episcopal Bishops Daniel S. Tuttle and Abiel Leonard. Today the beehive is found in the logos for a myriad of Utah based business, schools and organizations.

**Beehive's Symbolism.** The beehive is usually seen as a symbol of industry. Chaucer used the simile "as busy as bees" in the fourteenth century, but this only explains part of the beehive's symbolic meaning. More important to Brigham Young was the concept of a community working together to sustain its members. In the early days of Utah, importation of food, clothing and building materials was impractical. Only minimal supplies were brought in by arriving wagon trains. Settler's requirements had to be met where ever possible using local resources. In like manner, bees gather pollen from local plants and flowers to produce the needs of the hive. Neither bees nor these early pioneers could run to the general store or lumber yard to purchase items they needed to survive. JOHN HARTVIGSEN

TOP LEFT: Beehive woodcut. TOP RIGHT: Seal used by Episcopal Bishop Daniel S. Tuttle, 1867-1886. MID-DLE RIGHT: Typical Utah business logo featuring a beehive design. BOTTOM LEFT: The NAVA 47 flag. JOHN **HARTVIGSEN** 

#### **REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

Registration forms are online: <www.nava.org>.

#### **REGISTRATION DEADLINES**

Regular registration ends—31 August 2013 Hotel reservation—14 September 2013

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

<a href="http://www.nava.org/nava-meetings/meetings/47">http://www.nava.org/nava-meetings/meetings/47</a>>



### Displays prompt public discussion of flags





FROM TOP: FIGS. 6-8. THE AUTHOR continued from page 3

Display No. 4 Table (Fig. 6)

Exit sign from Fort Howard Elementary School, razed 2006

Army Navy E Pennant, markings: "THE

SCHOLL MFG. CO., INC." "CHICAGO, ILL." 7 in. x 17.5 in.

U.S. Merchant Marine Pennant "Ships for Victory" Banner "THE VICTORY LIBERTY LOAN" "INDUSTRIAL HONOR EMBLEM AWARDED BY THE UNITED STATES TREASURY DEPARTMENT"

Award Program February 23, 1943

Sons in the Service Banner, 25 blue stars, three gold stars and one red star. The red star is for Phyllis Hill, registered nurse, prisoner of war.

I enjoy very much putting my flags on display. Sometimes it seems like a lot of work to set up a display when it will only be viewed for a couple of hours, but the response of the public makes it worth the effort (Fig. 7). I had a WWII veteran say "I've never been this close to an Admiral flag". Or to overhear a grandfather say to his grandson "Do you notice what is different in the number of stars on these flags compared to today's flag?" And then go on to explain why there is a difference. People want to tell me about their flags, too. One man gave me a WWII commissioning pennant. He said it just sits in a drawer and he knows I will take good care of it and will use it to educate others.

It was at this event four or five years ago I had a very tattered "U S ENSIGN size 10 Mare Island NOV 1943" on display. When I added it to my collection it was missing one of the four grommets. The tattered ends had formed little woolen braids from having blown in the wind. The white stripes on the fly end have a pinkish tint from the dye of the red stripes (Fig. 8). This flag probably had not flown for more than 65 years. As the crowds' attention was focused on the speaker, a man was walking along the flag display in the background holding a child by his hand. They paused in front of the tattered flag and when the breeze blew the flag, the man caught the flag by the end and...he kissed it. The man kissed my old tattered flag! I don't know who that man was. But I do know how he feels about the emblem of our country and what he is trying to pass on to future generations.

Putting up a flag display? It's worth it. Contact Dale Grimes Jr: dalegrimesjr@aol.com



### Photo Essay: Gift of Utah State Flag, Corrected by Legislation, to Governor

On June 24, Association Secretary John Hartvigsen and other Utah officials presented Governor Gary R. Herbert with a new Utah state flag manufactured to the 2011 specifications that corrected an 88-year-old error.

The Utah flag depicts the state's seal on a blue field. Four numerals in that seal, "1847," had been moved from their correct position on the flag's central emblem in 1922. House Concurrent Resolution 2, sponsored by then-Rep. Julie Fisher, specifies the correct pattern for the Utah flag. In manufacturing the corrected flags, Colonial Flag Co. of Salt Lake City was asked to return to the 1913 pattern, which uses colors and elements from the prototype color flag made for presentation to the Battleship U.S.S. Utah.

H.C.R. 2 did not make incorrect flags obsolete,

but encouraged the replacement of older flags with correct flags when new flags are needed.

The group led by Hartvigsen presented the correct flag to the Governor for display in his office. Present were Ron Fox, President of the Fox Group; Maurine P. Smith, president, Daughters of the Utah Pioneers; the legislation's sponsors, State Sen. Mark B. Madsen and Fisher, who is now executive director, Utah Department of Heritage and Arts; Mike Homer, Chair, Utah Board of State History; and Brad Westwood, director, Utah Division of State History and director, Utah State Historical Society.

Hartvigsen received a Presidential Citation for his work to correct the Utah flag at the Washington Flag Congress in 2011.

Photos continue on page 8

TOP: Gov.
Herbert holds the flag staff as
Hartvigsen
places the correct flag on the pole while Smith and Westwood watch. ASHLEE
BUCHHOLD, UTAH
GOVERNOR'S
OFFICE

### Photo Essay: Utah Governor Receives New Flag During Informal Ceremony at Capitol







CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: The correct rendering of the flag's central device; Hartvigsen presents copies of the Association's publications to Gov. Herbert; Madsen, Hartvigsen, Smith, Homer, Fisher, and Westwood after the ceremony; Fox, Hartvgisen, Gov. Herbert, Smith, and Westwood before the ceremony. ASHLEE BUCHHOLD, UTAH GOVERNOR'S OFFICE